

VII. Descriptions of four new Dipterous Insects from Central and Northern India. By W. W. SAUNDERS, Esq., F.L.S. &c.

[Read 2 December, 1839.]

Family TABANIDÆ.

New Genus. GASTROXIDES.

Head transverse, with three ocelli placed in an equilateral triangle on the vertex; proboscis straight, inclined downwards, about as long as the head. *Antennæ* rather longer than the head, three-jointed—first joint cylindrical, twice as long as the second, which is longer than broad—third joint a little longer than the two first, with four distinct rings dividing the joint into five divisions, the first of which is as long as the four following, and produced at the base on the superior part into an acute spine pointing forwards—the four last divisions equal in length. *Thorax* oval, rather broader than the head. *Abdomen* seven-jointed, ovato-conical, terminating in an acute point. *Legs* long and slender.

Gastroxides ater, mihi. (Plate V. fig. 4.)

Coal black, hairy; the wings of a black-brown, with a yellowish irregularly oval spot crossing the middle of the disk, and a smaller spot of the same nature towards the apex. Expansion one inch, length $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

From central India. In my own collection.

Obs.—This genus approaches nearest to *Tabanus*, but differs in having ocelli, in the antennæ, and in the shape of the abdomen. Its approach to other genera of the family *Tabanidæ* is also evident, but it differs from all the genera that I am acquainted with, and therefore I have made it the type of a new sub-genus under the name of *Gastroxides*, in allusion to the shape of the abdomen, which is unusual in the family to which the insect belongs.

[Fig. 4 a, head sideways; 4 b, antenna; 4 c, wing.]

Family ANTHRACIDÆ.

Anthrax ruficollis, mihi. (Plate V. fig. 5.)

Dull black, hairy, with a rufous margin of hairs on the anterior part of the thorax, and two large round pure white spots, one on either side of the third joint of the abdomen; wings hyaline, with the base black, and a broad black band running nearly across the middle of the disk, which on the anterior margin is produced into

a point towards the apex, and joins posteriorly with the black colouring of the base, the intervening part of the costa being also black.

Expansion $1\frac{6}{10}$ inch, length $\frac{7}{10}$ inch.

From central India. In my own cabinet and that of the Rev. F. W. Hope.

I am indebted to my friend J. Prinsep, Esq., Secretary to the Asiatic Society, for this beautiful *Anthrax*, as well as for the *Gastroxides* just described.

Obs.—This may be the *Anthrax collaris* of Wiedemann (Ex. Dip. vol. 1, page 271), but he gives that species as much smaller and as probably coming from the Cape. He describes the wings as “*alis nigris, guttula, excisura, apiceque limpidis,*” which I cannot reconcile with the wings before described, and therefore I have made a new species of it.

Family SYRPHIDÆ.

CERIA EUMENIOIDES, mihi. (Plate V. fig. 6.)

Head transverse, as broad as the thorax, yellow, with the eyes black, and the antennæ and ocelli of a light reddish-brown. *Thorax* reddish-brown, with a yellow spot on either side on the anterior margin above, a yellow transverse line just before the insertion of the wings, terminated by yellow spots, below which, down the sides, is a broad vertical yellow band. *Scutellum* black, broadly margined with yellow. *Abdomen* petiolated, somewhat broader than the thorax, the petiole of a single joint; first joint very attenuated in the middle and enlarged at both ends, as long as the head and thorax, reddish-brown, margined behind and before with yellow; second joint rich dark-brown, broadly margined with yellow; third joint dusky brown, black at the base and with a yellow margin, which enlarges along the sides, and forms two large oval spots—apical joint yellowish brown.

Expansion one $1\frac{3}{10}$ inch, length $\frac{8}{10}$ inch.

From northern India. In a collection sent to this country by Lieut. J. Campbell of the Bengal Artillery, and now in my custody.

[Fig. 6 a, antennæ; 6 b, wing; 6 c, leg; 6 d, extremity of tarsus.]

Family MUSCIDÆ.

New Genus. DASYNEURA.

Head transversely ovate, nearly as broad as the thorax, with three ocelli placed in a broadly based triangle on the vertex, and

three shallow cavities on the interior margin of the eyes, from which arise single bristles. *Antennæ* placed in front, approximating at the base, three-jointed, the two first joints inversely conical, short, the third long, declining, ovato-conical, with a plain seta arising from the base, which is rather longer than the joint. *Thorax* broadly ovate, obtuse in front, with the scutellum considerably produced. *Abdomen* subrotund, about the length of and a little broader than the thorax. *Legs* moderate. *Wings*, with the anal nervure very much incrassated.

[Fig. 3 *a*, head in front; 3 *b*, antenna; 3 *c*. foot; 3 *d*, wing.]

DASYNEURA ZONATA, mihi. (Plate V. fig. 3.)

Reddish-brown. *Head* yellowish-brown, with the eyes darker, and having four long upright bristles on the hinder margin. *Thorax* bristly, with a spot on either side in front, two longitudinal streaks on the upper surface, a vertical band down each side just before the insertion of the wings; the *scutellum*, and another vertical streak just below the scutellum, yellow. *Abdomen* with the first segment margined with yellow, and the base of the second dark brown; the fourth segment lighter, with a dark line down the centre of the upper surface, and a dark spot on each side.

From central India. Expansion $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, length $\frac{1}{3}$ inch.

For this insect I am again indebted to my friend J. Prinsep, Esq.

Obs.—This interesting little insect does not enter into any of the present established genera of *Tephritides*, as far as I am acquainted, and I have therefore formed it into a new sub-genus under the name of *Dasyneura*, in allusion to the thick nerve at the base of the wings, a character which will at once distinguish it. This thick nerve seems to be the result of the soldering together, as it were, of two nerves, which in several genera of *Tephritides* closely approach each other, but here they are so close to each other as to form one thick broad nervure.
